



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



Produced fortnightly by Paul and Hugh, with a few contributions from other ringers

Monday 9th June 2014

Mini Outing to Lane End and Turville on Saturday 31st May

Although we were in the heart of the Chilterns, the village of **Lane End** actually sits on a plain between the rolling hills and beech woods that are

the great characteristic of the region. More recently this area has garnered further recognition since the successful reintroduction of the red kite, an action which saw them quickly become a common sight for motorists on the M40, and now well beyond this territory. The parish church, with its saddleback roofed north tower, is a relatively recent building (Late 19th century), with its medieval roof timbers having been relocated from a large barn that once stood in the grounds of Bisham Abbey. By contrast to the Victorian 'dormitory-town' terraces and villas, just a few miles west is the scenic village of **Turville**, which is set amidst the glorious Hambleton Valley. Even if you are not aware of the name of the village, the church, the windmill, the timber-framed cottages and the pub, overlooked by hills and dense woodland on all sides, will surely have caught your eye from just having watched a modicum of films or television. For Turville read Dibley in the *Vicar of Dibley*, or Bramley End in *Went the Day Well*, or the windmill home of



Lane End



Turville



The Bull and Butcher



Caractacus Potts in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, or Little Weirwold in *Goodnight Mister Tom*, or doubling as numerous *Midsomer Murder* country villages. It is fourteen years since we last visited these two towers on an outing and so these were new bells for most of our group, and this combined with the exquisite location bathed by a demure sun made for a signal morning. Despite being one of England's most scenic villages, thankfully from a ringers perspective, Turville remains relatively under the radar as a tourist hotspot, possessing as it does a lovely set of bells and an historic pub at which to round off our morning, **The Bull and Butcher**, whose name recalls the fatalistic marriage of Anne Boleyn (Bullen) and Henry VIII. **Hugh.**

A Branch Practice at Headington

There was a very well attended practice at **Headington** (8) on Saturday 24th May. It included 'something for everyone' - from Plain Hunting to Stedman Triples. Less experienced ringers really benefit from these practices, so can I encourage even more experienced ringers to attend these practices in the future? **Paul.**

Bank Holiday Practice at Chilton

With a certain poignancy given that our previous visit to **Chilton** (6) on May Bank Holiday Monday coincided with the passing of Roy Jones, it was heartening that our Spring Bank Holiday Monday visit reaped significant reward, with Hayley and Toby from **Eynsham** both moving



forward in Stedman Doubles and starting on Little Bob Minor. Thanks primarily to the good offices of Kate Crennell we have been privileged to visit Chilton for quarter peals and practices on a regular basis since 2001, and undoubtedly the joy of ringing the bells here has never palled for us, and certainly this was a tower very close to Roy's heart. **Hugh.**

Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh Deam at: hugh.deam@btinternet.com or phone: 07899-871079.

- Thursday 12th June
 - Saturday 14th June
 - Friday 20th June
 - Saturday 21st June**
 - Saturday 28th June
 - Sunday 29th June
 - Friday 11th July
- 'Aunt Sally' at the White Hart, Lower Wolvercote at 8.00pm, preceded by ringing from 7.00pm.
- Method Ringing Practice at Combe (6) 10.00am-11.00am
- The Marston Practice will be transferred to North Hinksey (6) for this week only (7.30pm-9.00pm) because the Marston bells will be half-muffled in preparation for Roy's Memorial Service.
- A Special Memorial Service and interment of Roy's ashes at St Nicholas Church, Old Marston.**
- Ringing will start at 10.30am followed by the Service at 11.00am.**
- Basic Skills Ringing Practice at Tackley (6) 10.30am-12noon
- Bring & Share Picnic and Ringing at Swalcliffe (6) 2.30pm. Ringing at the church from 3.00pm
(There are no tower fees required from those coming on this trip)
- 'Aunt Sally' at the Red Lion, Old Marston at 8.30pm, preceded by ringing from 7.15pm

Local Practice Nights

- Mondays: St Aldates (6), Garsington (6)
- Tuesdays: Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).
- Wednesdays: Headington (8), Iffley (6).
- Thursdays: St Giles (8), Wolvercote (6), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6).
- Fridays: Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.30pm-7.30pm).

For more details go to the Oxford City Branch website: www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk

Any information or photographs for inclusion in **Hugh's News** please email me: paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk